

## CLAIMS

1. A load control device for an engine of a work vehicle, comprising:
  - an engine (1) in which a target speed is set to a value in a range from a low idling speed to a high idling speed;
  - a plurality of variable displacement hydraulic pumps (7, 8, 9) driven by the engine (1);
  - a plurality of hydraulic actuators (13, 14, 15) to which pressure oil discharged from the plurality of variable displacement hydraulic pumps (7, 8, 9) is supplied;
  - absorption torque changing means (19, 22, 23) for changing absorption torque for one or more of the variable displacement hydraulic pumps (7, 8, 9);
  - engine speed detection means (1a) for detecting an engine speed; and
  - control means (18) for reducing the absorption torque of the variable displacement hydraulic pump (7, 8, 9) when the detected engine speed is decreased to a predetermined threshold value or lower.
2. The load control device according to Claim 1, wherein the predetermined threshold value is an engine speed equal to or lower than the low idling speed.
3. The load control device according to Claim 1, comprising:
  - a hydraulic actuator for activating a steering mechanism (13); and
  - a hydraulic actuator for activating a work machine (14).
4. The load control device according to Claim 1, wherein the absorption torque changing means is means (19) for changing maximum absorption

torque of the hydraulic pump.

5. The load control device according to Claim 1, wherein the absorption torque changing means comprises:

displacement control means (22) for controlling a displacement of the variable displacement hydraulic pump (8) such that a differential pressure between a discharge pressure of the variable displacement hydraulic pump (8) and a load pressure of the hydraulic actuator (14) becomes a set differential pressure; and

means (23) for changing the set differential pressure.

6. The load control device according to Claim 1, wherein the pressure oil is supplied from each of the plurality of variable displacement hydraulic pumps (7, 8, 9) to each of the plurality of hydraulic actuators (13, 14, 15) via each independent oil passage.

7. The load control device according to Claim 1, wherein an operating element (17) is provided for setting a target engine speed according to an operating amount thereof;

the predetermined threshold value is set according to the operating amount of the operating element (17); and

the control means (18) reduces the absorption torque of the variable displacement hydraulic pump (7, 8, 9) when the detected engine speed decreases to the threshold value or lower.